

Lowell Health Department Public Health Nursing

February 2018

Communicable Diseases Reported

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Feb.2017</u>	<u>2017 Total</u>	<u>Feb. 2018</u>	<u>2018 YTD</u>
Amebiasis		2		
Arbovirus		1		
Babesiosis		5	1	1
Calicivirus/Norovirus		4		3
Campylobacteriosis		17		
Clostridium perfringens		1		
Cryptococcus neoformans		1		
Cryptosporidiosis	3	11		3
Dengue Fever		4		
Ehrlichiosis		2		
Enterovirus		1		
Giardiasis	5	14	3	6
Group A Streptococcus		62	9	13
Group B Streptococcus		15	1	5
Haemophilus Influenzae		2		
Hepatitis A		4		
Hepatitis B	10	159	14	32
Hepatitis C	43	232	30	46
Hepatitis D		1		
Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis		5		
Influenza	284	857	880	1246
Legionellosis		2		1
Lyme Disease	5	81	3	7
Malaria		13		
Measles		3		
Meningitis – Unknown Type		1		
Mumps		1		
Pertussis (and other Bordatella species)		8		
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever		2		
Rubella		1		
Salmonellosis	1	22	1	1
Shiga toxin producing enzyme		5		
Shigellosis	2	7		
Streptococcus pneumoniae	1	14	1	3
Toxoplasmosis				1
Varicella	1	12		
Viral Meningitis (aseptic)				
West Nile Virus Infection		2		
Yersiniosis		1		
Zika Virus Infection	7	48	1	1

*denotes case is connected to a foodborne illness investigation

Tuberculosis Cases Reported

	<u>Feb. 2017</u>	<u>2017 Total</u>	<u>Feb. 2018</u>	<u>2018 YTD</u>
TB LTBI	29	450	42	59
TB Active	1	14	4	7
B Waivers		15	4	4

38 DOTs done in total by 2 public health nurses and nurse manager

February 2018 Refugee Arrivals **Total Families/Total Persons**

<u>February 2017</u>	<u>2017 Total</u>	<u>February 2018</u>	<u>2018 YTD</u>
7 families/16 people	93 families/256 persons	4 families/6 people	7 families/ 17 people

Immunizations

<u>Vaccine</u>	<u>February 2017</u>	<u>2017 Total</u>	<u>February 2018</u>	<u>2018 YTD</u>
Seasonal Flu	4	328		
Tdap		25		

Walk in Flu/Tdap clinics have been suspended until further notice due to malfunction of vaccine refrigerator.

Public Health Nurse Activities

Met with Wellness Director at Lowell Transitional Living Center to determine which educational topics will be presented at shelter. First session will be March 26, 2018 and will center on teaching about respiratory illnesses, which can be exacerbated by living in close quarters.

Worked with Health Department Director, Public Health Nurse Manager, and Emergency Preparedness Consultant for Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) exercise to be conducted in March 2018.

Participated in walk-through at Tsongas Center, which is the City's EDS, as preparation for EDS exercise to be held there on March 22, 2018.

Attended Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses meeting at Tewksbury State Hospital.

Provided a total of 38 DOT (Directly Observed Therapy) visits for active TB cases

Attended TB clinic with active TB cases

Conducted contact investigation for new active TB patient

Consulted with MDPH TSA (Tuberculosis Surveillance Area) nurse regarding new active TB cases

Investigated communicable diseases reported in Lowell residents

Provided information, referrals, and education to community residents and medical providers who call the Health Department

Communicated with Animal Control regarding animal bites/rabies testing

Provided education and guidance to physicians' offices regarding TB and communicable diseases

Public Health Nurse Manager Activities

Continued working with Health Department Director and Emergency Preparedness Consultant for Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) exercise to be conducted in March 2018.

Participated in walk-through at Tsongas Center, which is the City's EDS, as preparation for EDS exercise to be held there on March 22, 2018.

Met with Region 3 C Emergency Preparedness Planner to discuss possible closed POD (Point of Dispensing) sites for the City of Lowell.

Participated in conference call with Massachusetts Department of Public Health regarding the increase in newly-diagnosed cases of HIV in the City of Lowell, and their relation to the ongoing opioid crisis.

Met with Health Department public health intern to discuss communicable disease investigation, TB case management, vaccination program, emergency preparedness, and community outreach being performed by the Public Health Nursing department.

Met with Wellness Director at Lowell Transitional Living Center to determine which educational topics will be presented at shelter. First session will be March 26, 2018 and will center on teaching about respiratory illnesses, which can be exacerbated by living in close quarters.

Mentored 2 nursing students from Middlesex Community College, who are in their Community Health rotation.

Attended Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses meeting at Tewksbury State Hospital.

Consulted with MDPH TSA (Tuberculosis Surveillance Area) nurse regarding new active TB cases.

Attended TB clinic with active TB case.

Provided 8 DOT (Directly Observed Therapy) visits to active TB cases in Lowell.

Investigated communicable diseases reported in Lowell residents

Provided information, referrals, and education to community residents and medical providers who call the Health Department

Communicated with Animal Control regarding animal bites/rabies testing

Provided education and guidance to physicians' offices regarding TB and communicable diseases

Submitted by Colleen da Silva, RN, Public Health Nurse Manager